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For Immediate Release:

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Living Festival

Milwaukee, WI (March 28, 2014) – The seventh annual Green Living Festival brings an interactive theater performance, a “fashion experience,” demonstrations, talks, and activities for the kids—all centered on healthy strategies and sustainability—to the Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd., Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Kohl’s Wild Theater will present Kids’ Jamboree, a series of three interactive 10-minute skits, at 9 a.m, “The Biodiversity Pep Rally” will encourage the audience to cheer for all forms of life, “The Bachelor-Pette” will be in a game-show format and will focus on good decision-making when choosing a pet, and “The Trash Monster” will teach about the importance of picking up trash and recycling.

The “fashion experience” is more than a fashion show. From noon–1 p.m., 12 models will walk among the crowd, giving visitors the opportunity to see, up-close, the fiber art of 2013 Project Runway Contestant and Pfister’s Artist in Residence, Timothy Westbrook. Westbrook weaves organic and repurposed materials, such as cassette tapes, into cloth that he transforms into fashions on a treadle sewing machine. Both the weaving and sewing use no electricity.

Other special programs include “Living a Nontoxic Lifestyle,” a talk at 10 a.m. by Lisa Gorelick, a registered nurse who has studied chemical sensitivity; “Easy Healthy Eating,” a demonstration at 1 p.m. on healthy food choices; and “Growing Food at Home,” a session at 2 p.m. in which visitors plant seeds to take home for future transplant into their own gardens.

In the Show Dome and celebrating the United Nations’ “International Year of Family Farming,” several farmers will be available to meet with visitors and answer questions. The UN recognizes the potential of family farmers to eradicate hunger, preserve natural resources, and promote sustainable development. Visitors will learn more about locally-grown food, community-supported agriculture (CSAs), food shares, and work shares.

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Ongoing activities at the festival include the offerings of over 40 organizations. Visitors will see Cream City hens; Joey Nelson's furniture made from fallen trees and using historic joining techniques; fair-trade items; exotic birds and reptiles; repurposed fashions; and demonstrations of food, solar energy, tree care, and home- and personal-care products. In addition, a video display will show the making of the green roof at The Domes—the first green roof in the Milwaukee County Parks.

Throughout the day, kids' activities will include papermaking with embedded seeds for one-of-a-kind Mother's Day cards; a scavenger hunt; creating glittery, repurposed T-shirt headbands, bracelets and backpack bling; and making souvenir Green Living Festival buttons.

Additional activities will take place outside The Domes. Grass-trimming goats will be grazing on the plaza; bicycle maintenance will be demonstrated; and the pedal-powered Cream City Rickshaw Rides will take visitors around the grounds (tips are appreciated).

In the back parking lot, a medicine drop-off will be conducted by MMSD from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Visitors may bring unused prescription or over-the-counter drugs for proper disposal. Because water reclamation facilities are not designed to remove everything, the collection will help prevent the drugs from getting into Lake Michigan.

Also coinciding with the Green Living Festival is Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful's "Community Kickoff Day" of the Great American Cleanup™ from 9 a.m.–noon. Participants in the cleanup receive a booklet of coupons which includes a buy-one-get-one-free admission coupon to The Domes.

While at the Green Living Festival, visitors are encouraged to tour the current floral show, "Irish Spring," featuring hydrangeas, lilies, and tulips.

Healthy grab-and-go food from Outpost Natural Foods will be available for purchase.

Regular admission rates apply; Adults, \$7; Youth, age 6-17, \$5; Children, age 5 & under, free; Seniors with proof of Milwaukee County Residency, \$5; College Students with school ID, \$5; and Friends of The Domes member, Free. For more information visit [countyparks.com](http://countyparks.com) or call (414) 257-5600.

Volunteer opportunities are available for ages 16 and up. For details on volunteering, call Paula Zamiatowski, Domes Education Center, (414) 257-5603.

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